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1. (Amended) A method of distributing music to customer households comprising the steps of:

blanket transmitting a plurality of music selections to customer households by a broadcasting transmission system;

providing each customer household with information identifying available music selections that will be transmitted;

enabling each customer household to preselect and record desired music selections in conventional compact disc (CD) format;

permitting each customer household to permanently select recorded music selections that the customer wishes to maintain for unrestricted playback;

communicating permanent selection information from each customer household to a central controller system; and

billing customer households for the recorded music selections that are permanently selected.

Please add new Claims 2-23 as follows:

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2. (New) The method for distributing music as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said transmitting step includes transmitting digital music content at data transmission rates faster than real time.

3. (New) The method for distributing music as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said information includes music selection content availability, scheduling and content pricing data.

4. (New) The method for distributing music as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said enabling step includes providing an interactive program guide via a display device for enabling

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customers to select available digital music content and select functions for recording said music content and functions for playing back recorded music content.

5. (New) The method for distributing music as claimed in Claim 4, further comprising the steps of: receiving and decoding transmitted music selections and associated information and storing decoded music selections and associated information in a digital data storage device for temporary storage thereof.

6. (New) The method for distributing music as claimed in Claim 5, further comprising the step of providing remote access to said decoded content availability, scheduling and content pricing data, said remote access including a direct Internet access link to a website of the content provider or via phone line connection.

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7. (New) The method for distributing music as claimed in Claim 6, further including the step of enabling a customer to listen to decoded and stored music selections one or more times on a no-charge basis prior to permanently selecting said recorded music selections that the customer desires to maintain for unrestricted playback.

8. (New) The method for distributing music as claimed in Claim 7, further including the step of generating a permanent enabling code for inclusion with said permanent recorded music selections to thereby enable said unrestricted playback.

9. (New) The method for distributing music as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said broadcasting transmission system includes a direct broadcast satellite (DBS) system, said

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transmitting step comprising: scheduling and transmitting encoded music content to a direct broadcast satellite up-link facility via said central controller, said means additionally transmitting program/pricing information to said up-link facility on a periodic basis.

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10. (New) A system for distributing music to customer households comprising the steps of:
transmission means for blanket transmitting a plurality of music selections to customer households and information identifying available music selections that capable of being transmitted;
a computer-based recording, storage and playback station at each customer household, said station comprising:
means enabling the customer to preselect desired transmitted music selections for recording;
means for recording desired music selections in a storage medium;
means enabling each customer household to permanently select recorded music selections that the customer desires to maintain for unrestricted playback; and,
means for communicating permanent selection information from each user station to a central controller system; and,
a billing system associated with the central controller system to bill customer households for the recorded music selections that are permanently selected.

11. (New) The system for distributing music as claimed in Claim 10, wherein said transmission means includes direct broadcast satellite (DBS) system.

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12. (New) The system for distributing music as claimed in Claim 11, wherein said transmission means transmits digital music content at data transmission rates faster than real time.

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13. (New) The system for distributing music as claimed in Claim 11, wherein said information includes music selection content availability, scheduling and content pricing data.

14. (New) The system for distributing music as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said means permitting the customer household to preselect desired transmitted music selections for recording includes interactive means providing a program guide via a display device for enabling customers to select available digital music content, said interactive means further enabling the customer to select functions for recording said music content and functions for playing back recorded music content.

15. (New) The system for distributing music as claimed in Claim 13, wherein said computer-based recording, storage and playback station further comprises a decoder device for receiving and decoding transmitted music selections and associated information and storing decoded music selections and associated information in a digital data storage device for temporary storage thereof.

16. (New) The system for distributing music as claimed in Claim 13, further comprising means enabling remote access to said decoded content availability, scheduling and content pricing data, said remote access including a direct Internet access link to a website of the content provider or via phone line connection.

17. (New) The system for distributing music as claimed in Claim 14, wherein said storage medium includes one selected from the group comprising: a read/write CD's, write only CD's, DVD RAM, magneto-optical disc, and digital tape, said means for recording including a device having a write/read mechanism for recording and playback of music content thereof.

18. (New) The system for distributing music as claimed in Claim 15, further including means enabling a customer to listen to decoded and stored music selections one or more times on a no-charge basis prior to permanently selecting said recorded music selections that the customer desires to maintain for unrestricted playback.

19. (New) The system for distributing music as claimed in Claim 18, further including means for generating a permanent enabling code in for inclusion with said permanent recorded music selections to thereby enable said unrestricted playback.

20. (New) The system for distributing music as claimed in Claim 16, further including means for scheduling and transmitting encoded music content to a direct broadcast satellite up-link facility via said central controller, said means additionally transmitting program/pricing information to said up-link facility on a periodic basis.

21. (New) The system for distributing music as claimed in Claim 11, wherein said direct broadcast satellite transmission operates in the KU Band of signals frequency communication, or other suitable frequency bands.

22. (New) The system for distributing music as claimed in Claim 11, wherein said means for recording desired music selections in a storage medium direct includes a multiple disc platter for storing multiple disks each comprising recorded stored multimedia content.